

Remarks

By this Amendment, Claims 1 and 14 have been amended. Claims 1-2, 6-8 and 14-15 remain pending in the application with Claims 1 and 14 being independent claims.

Claim Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 102

Claims 1-2 and 14-15 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(a) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,184, 544 (Toda et al.). Reconsideration of this rejection and allowance of these claims is respectfully requested in light of the Amendments to independent Claims 1 and 14.

Claims 1 and 14 have been amended to recite that the reflector layer is a metal or metal matrix composite reflector layer. A metal or metal matrix composite reflector layer would have better reflectivity than a plastic reflector layer, thereby directing a greater portion of the light generated by the LED outward. A metal or metal matrix composite reflector layer also has the advantage of being easy to manufacture, for example, by photoetching or stamping as recited in paragraph [0031] of the specification. Support for these amendments is found in paragraphs [0020] and [0031] to [0034] of the specification.

Toda et al. teaches a reflecting layer 22 formed by a synthetic resin material, along with reflectivity provided by the layer 21 made from the same synthetic resin. Toda therefore does not teach or suggest each and every element of Claims 1 and 14 as amended. Therefore, Claims 1 and 14, and Claims 2, 5 and 15 dependent therefrom, are respectfully submitted to be in condition for allowance.

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Claim Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claims 6-8 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Toda et al. in view of U.S. Published Patent Application No. 2002/0179919 (Deisenhofer et al.). Reconsideration of this rejection and allowance of these claims is respectfully requested based on the Amendments to Claim 1, from which these claims depend.

As explained above, Claim 1 has been amended to recite that the reflector layer is a metal or metal matrix composite. Toda et al. discloses reflection from two different layers 21 and 22, both of which are synthetic resin materials. Deisenhofer et al. discloses a reflector layer 8 that is made from glass. Therefore, Deisenhofer fails to supplement Toda et al. in a manner that would produce the invention as recited in Claim 1.

Therefore, Claims 6-8 which are dependent from Claim 1, are respectfully submitted to be in condition for allowance.

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Conclusion

For the above reasons, the application is respectfully submitted to be in condition for allowance. If such is not the case, the Examiner is invited to telephone Applicants' representative so that any additional issues may be resolved.

Respectfully submitted,

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